

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OPIC-03 H-01 FEAE-00

INT-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 CIEP-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /057 W

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O R 271415Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6824

AMEMBASSY LOME

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1976

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, ENRG, PINT, DM

SUBJ: TEXACO AND MOBIL RACTION TO DAHOMEAN NATIONALIZATION

REF A. ABIDJAN 10269 B. STATE 279156 C. COTONOU A 103

D. COTONOU 1956

1. IN COURSE OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH FORNMIN ALLADAYE 20
DEC (REFS C AND D) AMB INDICATED UNLIKELIHOOD TEXACO COULD
COMPLETE ITS PAPERWORK BY DEC 31, AND REASONS THEREFOR.
ALLADAYE NOT AWARE THAT DATE HAD BEEN ADVANCED FROM JAN 4.

2. UPON RECEIPT OF REF B (DEC 23) DCM WENT TO SEE KIFOULI
SALAMI, PRES OF THE AD HOC COMMISSION DEALING WITH OIL COM-
PANY CLAIMS. SALAMI HAD TO REFER REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TEXACO
SUBMISSION DEADLINE TO MIN OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND TOURISM.
MIN REPLIED TO EMBASSY TRHOUGH SALAMI LATE YESTERDAY (DEC
26) THAT "ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS" TEXACO WOULD BE GRANTED
EXTENSION TO JAN 4. SALAMI ASKED THAT THIS INFO NOT BE SHARED
WITH OTHER OIL COMPANIES INVOLVED.

3. SALAMI SAID IF COMPANY DID NOT MEET DEADLINE IT WOULD
HAVE TO ACCEPT THE NOMINAL VALUE PLACED ON ITS INTERESTS BY THE
COMMISSION. DCM URGED THAT MRGD BE REASONABLE AND TAKE INTO
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ACCOUNT LARGE AMOUNT OF WORK INVOLVED, DIFFICULTY OF GETTING

IT DONE DURING HOLIDAY SEASON, AND FACT TEXACO HAD TO REPLY NOT ONLY ON ITS OWN STAFF BUT ALSO ON ANOTHER COMPANY (IBM) TO PROCESS DATA REQUIRE FOR SUBMISSION. HE WAS INFORMED THAT PLACING A NOMINAL VALUE ON TEXACO'S INTERESTS WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS ADDEUATE IN MEETING DAHOMEY'S OBLIGATIONS FOR A JUST SETTLEMENT.

4. QUESTIONED RE NECESSITY FOR ADVANCING THE DEADLINE, SALAMI INDICATED THAT PRES KEREKOU HAD DECIDED TO GIVE THE COMMISSION A SHORTER PERIOD THAN ANTICIPATED TO COMPLETE ITS WORK. THIS HAD CAUSED ACOMPRESSON OF THE WHOLE TIMETABLE.

5. P.S. REF A JUST RECEIVED. WILL INFORM SALAMI THAT TEXACO AND MOBIL CAN MEET DEC 31 DEADLINE AND WILL VERIFY POUHEY'S APPOINTMENT WITH HIM.
ENGLE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COTONO01976
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740375-1005
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974129/aaaaagwr.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 ABIDJAN 10269, 74 STATE 279156, 74 COTONOU A 103
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXACO AND MOBIL RACTION TO DAHOMEAN NATIONALIZATION
TAGS: EINV, ENRG, PINT, DM, TEXACO, MOBIL
To: ABIDJAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005